

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EB-08 ISO-00 /021 W  
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R 241128Z AUG 78  
FM AMEMBASSY BELGRADE  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7706  
USDOC WASHDC

UNCLAS SECTION 1 OF 2 BELGRADE 6192

USDOC

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: BTRA, YO  
SUBJECT: YUGOSLAV BUSINESS DELEGATION VISIT TO U.S.

REF: A) BELGRADE 5855, B) BELGRADE 3695

1. FEDERAL CHAMBER OF ECONOMY OFFICIALS HAVE INFORMED US THAT YUGOSLAV BUSINESS DELEGATION NOW DEFINITELY SCHEDULED TO DEPART SEPTEMBER 22 FOR OFFICIAL VISIT TO U.S. SEPTEMBER 25 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30. CHAMBER PRESIDENT ILIJA VAKIC WILL LEAD DELEGATION, WHICH WILL TOTAL 37 INDIVIDUALS AND INCLUDE REPRESENTATIVES OF 34 MAJOR YUGOSLAV ENTERPRISES AND BANKS--PRINCIPALLY AT THE LEVEL OF GENERAL DIRECTOR OR BUSINESS BOARD PRESIDENT. EACH REPUBLIC AND AUTONOMOUS PROVINCE WILL ALSO BE REPRESENTED.

CHAMBER OFFICIALS TELL US THAT THIS DELEGATION WILL BE THE HIGHEST LEVEL BUSINESS GROUP EVER SENT ABROAD BY THE SFRY. (SEE FINAL PARA FOR COMPLETE LIST OF DELEGATION MEMBERS.)

2. AS INDICATED PARA 1 REF B, BUSINESS DELEGATION WILL BREAK UP INTO FOUR GROUPS WHICH WILL VISIT SEVERAL CITIES ON SEPARATE ITINERARIES. CHAMBER OFFICIALS DO NOT YET HAVE THESE ITINERARIES AVAILABLE. VAKIC, ACCOMPANIED BY A SMALL ENTOURAGE, WILL CONSTITUTE A FIFTH GROUP WHICH WILL MOVE ABOUT INDEPENDENTLY,  
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SPENDING TWO DAYS EACH IN NEW YORK AND LOS ANGELES AND ONE DAY IN CHICAGO. BESIDES VAKIC HIMSELF, THE ENTOURAGE WILL INCLUDE CHAMBER OFFICIAL PILIPOVIC, JUGOBANKA PRESIDENT COLANOVIC, STOPANSKA BANKA GENERAL DIRECTOR ZAGARIJEVSKI (THE LATTER TWO IN THEIR CAPACITIES AS REPRESENTATIVES OF THE YUGOSLAV ASSOCIATION OF BANKS), AND CHAMBER INTERPRETER LANDA.

3. FOLLOWING COMPLETION OF OFFICIAL VISIT SEPTEMBER 30, A NUMBER OF DELEGATION MEMBERS WILL APPARENTLY STAY ON FOR INDIVIDUAL MEETINGS IN VARIOUS CITIES. VAKIC WILL REMAIN IN THE U.S. AN ADDITIONAL WEEK TO ATTEND INTERNATIONAL CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE MEETING IN FLORIDA AND TO MEET WITH OFFICIALS IN WASHINGTON AND BUSINESSMEN AND BANKERS IN NEW YORK. HE IS SCHEDULED TO DELIVER A SPEECH AT THE FLORIDA MEETING THE EARLY PART OF THE WEEK (EXACT DATE STILL UNCERTAIN), AFTER WHICH HE WILL BE FREE TO VISIT WASHINGTON AND NEW YORK--PROBABLY OCTOBER 4-6.

4. CHAMBER OFFICIALS INDICATED THAT VAKIC WOULD LIKE TO HAVE OFFICIAL PROGRAM IN WASHINGTON. THEY SAID HE DID NOT EXPECT AN OFFICIAL INVITATION, PER SE, BUT THAT HE HOPED--AND EXPECTED--THAT AN APPROPRIATE SENIOR USG OFFICIAL WOULD ACT AS HIS HOST FOR THIS VISIT. THEY ASKED WHICH USG OFFICIAL THIS WOULD MOST LIKELY BE. WE COMMENTED THAT AT FIRST GLANCE THE SECRETARY OF COMMERCE WOULD APPEAR MOST APPROPRIATE BUT SAID THAT OF COURSE WE WOULD HAVE TO TRANSMIT THIS REQUEST TO WASHINGTON FOR DECISION. IN RESPONSE TO OUR QUESTION REGARDING VAKIC'S RANK, FOR PURPOSES OF PROTOCOL, CHAMBER OFFICIALS INFORMED US THAT VAKIC, AS PRESIDENT OF THE FEDERAL CHAMBER, IS CONSIDERED TO BE A DEPUTY TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE FEDERAL EXECUTIVE COUNCIL (FEC) AND THUS RANKS AT THE LEVEL OF, AND IN FACT SLIGHTLY ABOVE, A VICE PRESIDENT OF THE FEC (VICE PREMIER).

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5. REGARDING WASHINGTON PROGRAM, CHAMBER OFFICIALS STATED THAT VAKIC HOPES TO MEET WITH VICE PRESIDENT MONDALE, WHO HAD EXTENDED A PERSONAL INVITATION TO VAKIC DURING THE VICE PRESIDENT'S VISIT HERE LAST YEAR. VAKIC ALSO PLANS TO MEET WITH WORLD BANK PRESIDENT MCNAMARA, IMF DIRECTOR DE LAROSIERE, AND LOOKS FORWARD VERY MUCH TO MEETING WITH EXIMBANK CHAIRMAN MOORE. IN ADDITION TO MEETING(S) AT COMMERCE, AND POSSIBLE, WITH UNDER SECRETARY COOPER. VAKIC WILL BE ACCOMPANIED AT ALL WASHINGTON MEETINGS BY THE SAME ENTOURAGE LISTED PARA 2.

6. WE UNDERSTAND FROM CHAMBER THAT DIRECT RESPONSIBILITY FOR ORGANIZING COMPLEX DELEGATION/VAKIC VISIT OVERALL LIES WITH YUGOSLAV TRADE REPS IN U.S. (PECI-POPOVIC IN NEW YORK AND PERIC IN CHICAGO) WITH ASSISTANCE OF USYEC (I.E., JIM WALKER) IN NEW YORK. WE STRONGLY RECOMMEND THAT STATE AND COMMERCE WORK CLOSELY WITH ORGANIZERS AND COORDINATE ON ARRANGEMENTS AND APPOINTMENTS BEING MADE TO HEAD OFF LAST-MINUTE PROBLEMS TO EXTENT POSSIBLE. WE ALSO REITERATE AMBASSADOR'S SUGGESTION (PARA 5, REF A) THAT VISIT BE DISCUSSED AT INFORMAL WG MEETING BETWEEN ASSISTANT SECRETARY WEIL AND AMBASSADOR BELOVSKI IN EARLY SEPTEMBER (IF SUCH MEETING, WHICH WE THINK WOULD BE USEFUL, IS HELD).

7. CHAMBER PLANS TO HOLD SPECIAL BRIEFING FOR ALL DELEGATION MEMBERS IN BELGRADE IN MID-SEPTEMBER, PRIOR TO DEPARTURE, AND HAS ASKED OUR ASSISTANCE IN PROVIDING MATERIALS RELATING TO U.S. TRADE AND ECONOMY AS WELL AS GENERAL TRAVEL AND TOURIST INFORMATION. ACTION REQUESTED: STATE/COMMERCE ASSISTANCE IN OBTAINING AND POUCHING TO US ASAP WHATEVER MATERIALS MAY BE AVAILABLE (IN 37 COPIES) FOR DISTRIBUTION AT THIS BRIEFING.

8. AMBASSADOR PLANS TO HOST SOCIAL EVENT FOR VAKIC PRIOR TO SEPTEMBER 22 DEPARTURE. WE ALSO HOPE ASSISTANT SECRETARY WEIL CAN MEET WITH VAKIC DURING WEIL'S VISIT HERE NEXT MONTH, MOST LIKELY ON SEPTEMBER 18 IN BELGRADE.

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EB-08 ISO-00 /021 W  
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R 241128Z AUG 78  
FM AMEMBASSY BELGRADE  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7707  
USDOC WASHDC

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9. LIST OF DELEGATION MEMBER FOLLOWS:

ILIJA VAKIC, PRESIDENT, CHAMBER OF ECONOMY OF YUGOSLAVIA,  
CHIEF OF DELEGATION;

NIKOLA PILIPOVIC, SECRETARY OF YUGOSLAV CHAMBER FOR  
PROMOTION OF ECONOMIC COOPERATION WITH USA, SECRETARY OF  
DELEGATION;

ANE ARSOV, GENERAL DIRECTOR, OHIS (SKOPJE);

TOME ATANASOVSKI, GENERAL DIRECTOR, ZIK SKOPSKO POLE  
(SKOPJE);

KOSTADIN AVRAMCEV, GENERAL DIRECTOR, HEMTEKS (SKOPJE);

FRANC BAHAR, EXPORT DIRECTOR, LITOSTROJ (LJUBLJANA);

EGON CONRADI, GENERAL DIRECTOR, KOMPAS (LJUBLJANA);

BRANKO COLANOVIC, PRESIDENT, JUGOBANKA (BELGRADE), KFORMER  
NATIONAL BANK GOVERNOR);

PETAR DODIK, BUSINESS BOARD PRESIDENT, RMK ZENICA (ZENICA,  
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SLOVENIA);

MILOJKO DRULOVIC, GENERAL DIRECTOR, MAG (BELGRADE),(FORMER  
DIRECTOR OF "POLITIKA" PUBLISHING HOUSE AND AMBASSADOR  
TO CHINA);

VELIMIR GINOVSKI, GENERAL DIRECTOR, JUGOHRON (JEGUNOVCI,  
MACEDONIA);

NERINA GRUPKOVIC, EXPORT-IMPORT DIRECTOR, ENERGOINVEST  
(SARAJEVO);

TONE HRASTELJ, GENERAL DIRECTOR, JUGOTEKSTIL-IMPEX (LJUBLJANA);

JOZE HUJS, GENERAL DIRECTOR, ISKRA (LJUBLJANA);

TOMISLAV KARADZIC, GENERAL DIRECTOR, ZELJEZNICAR (SUBOTICA,  
VOJVODINA);

IVICA KARNINCIC, GENERAL DIRECTOR, DALMACIJA (DUGI RAT,  
CROATIA);

VLADA KOSTIC, GENERAL DIRECTOR, CENTROPROM (BELGRADE);

STJEPAN LISJAK, DEPUTY GENERAL DIRECTOR, INA (ZAGREB);

ZDRAVKO MARIC, BUSINESS BOARD PRESIDENT, FEROELEKTRO  
(SARAJEVO);

NAZMI MIKULOVCI, BUSINESS BOARD PRESIDENT, RMHK TREPCA  
(KOSOVSKA MITROVICA, KOSOVO);

DRAGAN MILJKOVIC, GENERAL DIRECTOR, ELEKTRONSKA INDUSTRIJA  
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(NIS, SERBIA);

TVRTKO NEVJESTIC, BUSINESS BOARD VICE-PRESIDENT, UNIS  
(SARAJEVO);

DOBRIVOJE PAUNOVIC, HEAD OF JOINT SERVICES, PPO BACKA PALANKA  
(BACKA PALANKA, VOJVODINA);

ALEKSANDAR SIMOVIC, HEAD OF COMMERCIAL SECTOR, VBA SLOBODAN  
PENEZIC-KRCUN (TITOVO UZICE, SERBIA);

VELIMIR RAJKOVIC, GENERAL DIRECTOR, PETROKEM (ZAGREB),  
(CHAIRMAN OF YUGOSLAV CHAMBER FOR PROMOTION OF ECONOMIC  
COOPERATION WITH USA);

FRANC RAZDEVSEK, PRESIDENT, SLOVENIJALES (LJUBLJANA);

MILORAD SAVICEVIC, GENERAL DIRECTOR, GENERALEXPORT (BELGRADE);

ICO SIMCIC, VICE PRESIDENT OF CROATION CHAMBER OF ECONOMY  
(ZAGREB);

NOVO SARANOVIC, GENERAL DIRECTOR, INDUSTRIAIMPORT (TITOGRAĐ);

DRAGUTIN SKRGATIC, GENERAL DIRECTOR, ASTRA-MASINOIMPEX  
(ZAGREB);

TIHOSLAV TOSIC, GENERAL DIRECTOR, GOSA (SMEDERVSKA PALANKA,  
SERBIA);

STEVAN UHLARIK, GENERAL DIRECTOR, KOPRODUKT (NOVI SAD);

MARKO UZELAC, GENERAL DIRECTOR, BELGRADE DEPARTMENT STORE  
ENTERPRISES (BELGRADE);

SLAVKO VRANCIC, GENERAL DIRECTOR, TLM BORIS KIDRIC (SIBENIK,  
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CROATIA);

DRAGAN ZAGARIJEVSKI, GENERAL DIRECTOR, STOPANSKA BANKA  
(SKOPJE);

MARIJA LANDA, INTERPRETER, CHAMBER OF ECONOMY OF YUGOSLAVIA.  
WORTZEL

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## Message Attributes

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